

## Objective 12 – Improve Tribal/State Relations and Natural Resources Management

Develop relationships with California Native American Tribes that Acknowledges and Respects the inherent rights of California Native American Tribes to exercise sovereign authority and ensure California Native American Tribes are incorporated into planning and water resources decision making processes in a manner that is consistent with their sovereign status.

Water Plan Update 2005 recommended that DWR and other State agencies invite, encourage, and assist Tribal government representatives to participate in statewide, regional, and local water planning processes and to access State funding for water projects. As part of Update 2009, a Tribal Communication Committee (TCC) prepared a comprehensive Tribal Communication Plan for the California Water Plan (presented in the Volume 4 Reference Guide). The 10 Tribal Communication Plan objectives were included in the Update 2009 related actions. A Tribal Advisory Committee was convened for Water Plan Update 2013. This committee convened and held a Tribal Water Summit for Update 2013 in April 2013, part of which included the development of the 2013 Tribal Water Summit Guiding Principles and Goals. The Update 2013 Objective 12 incorporates Update 2009 Objective and Related Actions, the 2013 Tribal Water Summit Guiding Principles and Statement of Goals, and the 2013 Tribal Water Summit implementation objectives.

Related Actions	Performance Measures	Responsible / Lead Entity	Funding Status (Full, Partial, or Unfunded)	Legislation Required (X for Yes)	SME Notes & References to Related Update 2013 Sections/Chapters
<p>1. The State, in collaboration with California Native American Tribes, should where it is within the State's authority, address Tribal water rights, including: Tribal water rights dating back to time immemorial; Federally-reserved water rights; jurisdiction; and trust responsibilities, including individual allotments, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convening a Task Force to articulate a consistent state policy and protocol that recognizes Tribal water rights in all aspects of water planning including supply, timing, and flows, quality, and quantity</li> <li>• Bureau of Indian Affairs and Water Board, in collaboration with California Native American Tribes, developing joint training on State, Federal and Tribal water rights including trust responsibilities, the implications for different Tribal trust lands (reservations, Rancherias and individual allotments) and jurisdiction</li> </ul>					
<p>2. State government should write legislation and contracts in a way that enables California Native American Tribes to be a lead agency and directly receive and manage state funding (as fiscal agent or otherwise) for water planning and management.</p>					
<p>3. California Department of Fish and Wildlife and California Native American Tribes will develop and initiate pilot projects to develop resource management plans, characterized by the integration of Traditional/Tribal Ecological Knowledge and western science. This will include identifying existing examples of partnerships and launching pilot projects.</p>					
<p>4. State agencies should use Tribal Ecological Knowledge to inform their work and decisions including: establishing baseline resource conditions, and developing options to share information in ways that protect specific details about cultural resources.</p>					
<p>5. State agencies, in collaboration with California Native American Tribes, should develop and conduct trainings for agencies on Tribal sovereignty, trust responsibilities</p>					

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and cultural awareness/sensitivity, and Traditional/Tribal Ecological Knowledge by developing a curriculum with a Tribal working group, establishing consistent training protocols for all agencies, and initiating trainings.					
6. State and Federal agencies, in coordination with California Native American Tribes, should identify, coordinate and provide technical training for California Native American Tribes, to increase technical capacity – including, but not limited to: basic training modules (e.g. Basic Inspector Academy, GIS, advanced technologies – such as LiDAR and satellite imagery, small water systems operations; and establish a criteria and protocol for ensuring vendors preferred by California Native American Tribes are utilized.					
7. State agencies should engage Tribal communities in compiling and developing climate change adaptation and resilience strategies that will mitigate climate impacts to their people, waterways, cultural resources, or lands.					
8. State Resources Control Board should, in collaboration with California Native American Tribes propose a statewide beneficial use definition that respects and acknowledges cultural and subsistence use of water and this definition should be adopted in statewide Water Quality Control Plans.					
9. State agencies and California Native American Tribes should utilize and implement communication strategies, protocols and procedures, that are developed and/or implemented by California Native American Tribes, including but not limited to the Tribal Communication Plan, U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2013 Tribal Water Summit Guiding Principles and Goals and tribal MOUs.					
10. State agencies, in collaboration with California Native American Tribes, should enhance Tribal outreach, communication, coordination, collaboration and the work of Tribal liaisons by: identifying and implementing strategies to strengthen Tribal involvement in State					

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outreach and engagement approaches, clarify Tribal liaison roles and responsibilities, and identify options for creating a statewide network of Tribal liaisons to address multiple aspects of Tribal concerns (e.g. legal, policy and local conditions).					
11. State agencies should engage in meaningful consultation by: encouraging and moving towards earlier involvement by California Native American Tribes (at the design/planning stages), initiate consultation for programmatic decisions – as well as project-level decisions, understanding individual California Native American Tribe’s protocol for consultation adjust timelines to allow adequate time to bring items before Tribal councils and leaders, conduct meetings on Tribal lands, and documenting Tribal comments.					